

# VIRGINIA TIMELINE

## DATE & EVENT

1584

Name "Virginia" Suggested

## DETAILS

Virginia was named for Queen Elizabeth I of England (she was known as the Virgin Queen). Sir Walter Raleigh may have suggested the name in 1584.

1619-1632

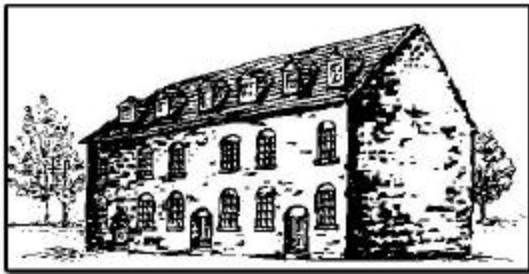
First Legislative Meeting – Jamestown



Virginia's General Assembly met for eleven years in the choir of the church at Jamestown. This building was the only one large enough to hold the Council, the Governor, and the 22-member House of Burgesses (as it was known until 1775).

1632-1656

First State House - Jamestown



The Council and the House of Burgesses met in the colonial governor's home (Sir John Harvey), at his expense. They used this house until 1656. If you visit Jamestown you can see the remains of this house.

1656-1660

Second State House - Jamestown

The second state house lasted just four years. They are still unsure of the exact location of this house. It was destroyed in 1660.

1660-1665

During these five years, the legislature met in one of the Jamestown taverns.

1665-1676

Third State House - Jamestown

The third capitol was located about a half mile west of the first state house. This building and the Jamestown settlement were burned in 1676 during Bacon's Rebellion.

1676-1685

The first Assembly after the fire was held at "Green Spring." This is where the governor lived, which was outside of town. As buildings began to go up in Jamestown again, the legislators met once more in taverns and in private homes.

## **DATE & EVENT**

**1685-1699**

### **Fourth State House - Jamestown**



## **DETAILS**

The fourth capitol was built on the ruins of the third. They met here for 14 years. In 1699, this last Jamestown state house went up in smoke. Its foundations were found and identified in 1903. Jamestown was no longer the capital after the fire that burned this 4<sup>th</sup> state house.

**1699-1704**

In 1699 the town of Williamsburg was established and was designated as the capital of the colony. The General Assembly met temporarily in the Wren Building at The College of William and Mary.

**1704-1747**

### **Fifth State House - First Williamsburg Capitol**



This brick capitol was in the form of an H, each wing of which was two stories high. There were many visitors to Williamsburg when the General Assembly was in session. In 1747 this capitol was destroyed by fire.

**1732**

### **Birth of George Washington**

George Washington was born in Westmoreland County on February 22, 1732. He was the 1st U.S. President, serving from 1789 to 1797.

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gwhtml/gwtime.html>

**1747-1753**

After the capitol building in Williamsburg was destroyed by fire, Virginia's legislators again met in the Wren Building at The College of William and Mary.

**1751**

### **Birth of James Madison**

James Madison was born. James Madison, at 5-foot, 4-inches, was the shortest president.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/jm4.html>

## DATE & EVENT

1753-1780

**Sixth State House - Second Williamsburg Capitol**



*Photo courtesy of the Library of Virginia.*



*Photo courtesy of the Library of Virginia.*

## DETAILS

The sixth state house was built on the same site as the fifth and was built in the same H shape, but was not as elaborate.

When the state government moved to Richmond in 1780, this building was used by George Wythe, professor of law at The College of William and Mary, to train future leaders by doing moot courts and mock legislatures.

The building was destroyed by fire in 1832. All that is left now is a marker to show where the building once stood.

1758

**James Monroe born in Westmoreland County, Virginia**

While he was President, he furnished the White House with items he purchased at an auction of possessions belonging to the executed Queen Marie Antoinette of France.

1770

**William Clark born in Caroline County**

Soldier, explorer; born in Caroline County, Va. He shared command of the famous Lewis and Clark expedition (1804-06) with Meriwether Lewis. William Clark is also known for his fine maps and illustrations of the animals of the territory.

1771

**Richmond Flood**

<http://www.richmondpubliclibrary.org/info/libsources/nwsprflood.htm>

1773

**William Henry Harrison was born at Berkley**

Harrison served as U.S. President for 31 days before he died of pneumonia. He died on April 4, 1841, the first President to die in office.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/wh9.html>

## DATE & EVENT

1774

**Meriwether Lewis born in Albemarle County, Virginia**

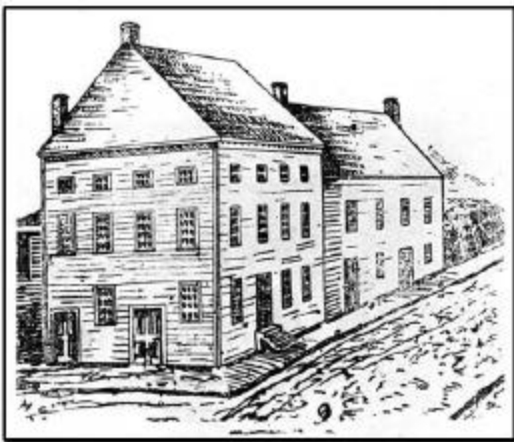


## DETAILS

[http://search.biography.com/print\\_record.pl?id=16972](http://search.biography.com/print_record.pl?id=16972)

1780-1788

**The Capitol – Richmond**



*Photo courtesy of the Library of Virginia.*

1784

**Zachary Taylor born in Virginia**

June 25, 1788

**Virginia entered Statehood**

Richmond was established as the new capital. The General Assembly met in a building at the corner of Pearl (now 14th) and Cary Streets until permanent buildings were built.

In 1781 with the threat of British invasion and possible captivity, the legislators met in Charlottesville, but the lawmakers were not safe there either. They escaped and met on June 7 at the Episcopal church in Staunton – prepared to flee farther west if necessary. In October the Assembly moved back to Richmond, in their "temporary capitol". This temporary capitol was demolished sometime before 1851 and is now marked by a small bronze plaque.

The first time Zachary Taylor voted was when he voted for himself in the 1849 presidential election.

Virginia becomes the 10<sup>th</sup> state.

## DATE & EVENT

**1788-1904**

**First Permanent Capitol – Richmond**



*Photo courtesy of the Library of Virginia.*



*Photo courtesy of the Library of Virginia.*

**1789-1797**

**George Washington served as President of the United States**

**1790**

**John Tyler born in Virginia**

**January 19, 1809**

**Edgar Allan Poe born**

## DETAILS

The capitol, designed by Thomas Jefferson, is modeled after the Maison Carrée in France.

In the center of this building is the life-size statue of George Washington (made by Houdon). In this area there are also busts of the seven other Virginia-born presidents and of Lafayette (a French volunteer who fought for America and for Virginia during the American Revolution).

The General Assembly met here for 116 years, except in 1849 when there was a cholera epidemic and they decided to meet elsewhere.

In the center of the capitol in Richmond is the life-size statue of George Washington (made by Houdon). This is said to be the only statue that Washington ever posed for.

John Tyler was the first Vice President to become President due to the death of his predecessor-William Henry Harrison.

Author- famous for:

The Masque of the Red Death (1838)

The Fall of the House of Usher (1839)

The Murders in the Rue Morgue (1841)

The Tell-Tale Heart (1843)

The Raven (1845)

The Cask of Amontillado (1847)

[http://search.biography.com/print\\_record.pl?id=18484](http://search.biography.com/print_record.pl?id=18484)

The Poe museum is located in Richmond, VA.

<http://www.poemuseum.org/>



## DATE & EVENT

**1861**

**Virginia's state flag adopted in 1861**



## DETAILS

The flag has a blue background with a white circle in the center.

In the center are the words "VIRGINIA," and "SIC SEMPER TYRANNIS" (Latin for "thus always to tyrants").

**1870**

**Capitol Disaster**

A hot debate over a case involving a mayor attracted a large crowd to the second floor room above the chamber of the House of Delegates. The floor collapsed because of the weight of all of the people- killing 62 and injuring 251.

**1873**

**Virginia writer and poet Ellen Glasgow born**

Writer, poet; born in Richmond, Va. She grew deaf starting in 1889. She wrote poetry, essays, and short stories.

**1877**

**Richmond Flood**

**1913-1921**

**Woodrow Wilson served as the 28<sup>th</sup> President of the United States**

He officially proclaimed the second Sunday in May to be Mother's Day.

**September 8, 1932**

**Patsy Cline born in Winchester, VA**



Country singer.

Some of her popular songs include:

"Walkin' After Midnight," (1957)

"I Fall to Pieces," (1962)

"Crazy" (1961) and

"She's Got You" (1962)

**1936**

**Richmond Flood**

## DATE & EVENT

1904-present

Present Day Capitol - Richmond



1941-1943

Pentagon built in Arlington

July 10, 1943

Arthur Ashe born in Richmond, VA

1962

Washington Dulles Airport opened

December 28, 1981

Elizabeth Jordan Carr born in Norfolk

1990-1994

Douglas Wilder served as Governor of Virginia



September 6, 1999

Ten year Old Enters College

## DETAILS

In 1904 extensive renovation and additional construction to the Capitol were begun. Wings were added to the west of the original structure as a new Senate chamber and to the east as new quarters for the House of Delegates.

The construction of the Pentagon was ordered by Brigadier General Brehon Sommervell. It was to consolidate 17 War Department buildings and cost \$83 million dollars.

[http://search.biography.com/print\\_record.pl?id=12390](http://search.biography.com/print_record.pl?id=12390)

Arthur Ash was the first and only African-American male tennis player to win the "Gentleman's Singles" title at Wimbledon. In 1975 Ashe was ranked No. 1 in the world.

This terminal was designed by Finnish-born architect Eero Saarinen.

She was the 1<sup>st</sup> American test tube baby.

A Richmond attorney, Governor Wilder served in the Senate of Virginia and as Lieutenant Governor before becoming the first elected African-American governor in U.S. history.

Gregory Smith (10), boy genius, began his first day of class at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland.